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New Features in e*GRandS

Two new features have been added to e*GRandS. First, there has been a modification to the online certification roster. Based on requests from users of e*GRandS in the financial aid community, the roster will now display the student's name in the first column and also the last column to the right of the certification indicators. This will allow the student's name to

always be visible when you are completing the certification process for a student.

Also, the search function has been enhanced to help find a student record by using the last four digits or the first five digits of the Social Security number (SSN). The search response will include all applicants that match your search. Please remember that you can still include the academic year and the aid program which will further narrow your results.

Upcoming TSAC Training Road Show

TSAC is offering a training opportunity for financial aid administrators at multiple locations across Tennessee. The workshops are designed for all levels of financial aid. Our preliminary agenda will include topics such as: alternative loans, CCRAA, e*GRandS – state grants and TELS program updates and system changes, eSignature and entrance counseling enhancements, default prevention

and FAQ.

The workshop will open at 8:30 a.m. with a continental breakfast and the first session beginning at 9:00 a.m. A light lunch will be served at 11:30. The conference will conclude at 3:00 p.m.

Registration may be completed online at www.CollegePaysTN.com. If you have any questions, please contact Cathy Jones at 615-428-5741.

LOCATIONS

▶ **January 29**
Johnson Bible College
Knoxville, TN

▶ **January 31**
Cleveland State CC
Cleveland, TN

▶ **February 27**
Lambuth University
Jackson, TN

▶ **January 30**
Tusculum College
Greeneville, TN

▶ **February 26**
Christian Brothers
University
Memphis, TN

▶ **February 28**
Cumberland University
Lebanon, TN

UPCOMING EVENTS & CONFERENCES

- ▶ 01/29/08
TSAC Training
Johnson Bible College
Knoxville, TN
- ▶ 01/30/08
TSAC Training
Tusculum College
Greeneville, TN
- ▶ 01/31/08
TSAC Training
Cleveland State Community
College
Cleveland, TN
- ▶ 02/17/08 - 02/20/08
SASFAA Conference
Arlington, VA
- ▶ 02/26/08
TSAC Training
Christian Brothers Univ.
Memphis, TN
- ▶ 02/27/08
TSAC Training
Lambuth University
Jackson, TN
- ▶ 02/28/08
TSAC Training
Cumberland University
Lebanon, TN
- ▶ 03/20/08
TSAC Board of Directors
Meeting
Nashville, TN
- ▶ 03/30/08 - 04/02/08
TASFAA Spring Conference
Memphis, TN
- ▶ 06/18/08 - 06/20/08
MASFAA Annual
Conference
Biloxi, MS

TSAC Awards Employees for their Service

TSAC awarded three of its' stellar employees for their ongoing commitment and service. The first of which was Mason Ball, who was awarded for 15 years of state service. Mason originally started working for the State Audit division of the Comptroller of the Treasury Department office in

state service. Frances started her career with the state in 2002 as a Secretary with the Department of Commerce and Insurance. She joined the TSAC team in 2003 as an Administrative Secretary. Currently, Frances holds the position of Administrative Assistant in the Compliance and Legal Affairs Division.



Mason Ball
Associate Executive Director for
Business Affairs



Eric Creighton
Account Technician in Grant and
Scholarship Division

1992. He later came to work for TSAC in 2006 as the Internal Auditor and was promoted to the Associate Executive Director for Business Affairs in 2007.

Secondly, Eric Creighton received an award for five years of state service which began in 2002 as a Clerk in the Grant and Scholarship Division of TSAC. Eric is still a TSAC team member and is currently an Account Technician in TSAC's Grant and Scholarship Division.

Thirdly, Frances Saylors was another one of TSAC's awardees given an award for five years of



Frances Saylors
Administrative Assistant in the
Compliance and Legal Affairs
Division

Financial Aid Question & Answer

Q. I can see a student in e*GRandS, but I cannot process payment. I noticed College Other Than Mine was listed as their current institution. What needs to be done for me to process my student's payment?

A. Financial aid administrators can only certify students in e*GRandS who have listed their institution first before any other Tennessee institution on the FAFSA. In situations where a student enters another TN institution's code before your own on the FAFSA, the student must complete a change of institution request from the link below found on our website under the parents & students tab and fax it to TSAC at (615) 741-6101. For future purposes, you may want to encourage the student to update their FAFSA of this change too. Once we update the student's record in e*GRandS, you can certify their record.

http://www.collegepays tn.com/stud_par/ChangeOfInstitution.pdf

Meet Carol Stephenson, Mid-west Tennessee's Outreach Specialist

The person who educates mid-west Tennessee on the ins and outs of the college process is Carol Stephenson. Carol has been an Outreach Specialist for the mid-west Tennessee region and an important part of TSAC



for almost a year. Anyone who has met Carol will agree she always has time to help address questions schools, students and parents have regarding higher education.

Carol started her career in

higher education when she accepted a job as a marketing assistant for the Bethel Success Program with Bethel College in McKenzie, Tennessee. She later joined the University of Tennessee at Martin as a recruiter in the middle Tennessee area. Though Carol valued her time at UTM, she saw an opportunity to use her experience and knowledge to help educate Tennesseans on how to attain their goals of furthering their education as an Outreach Specialist. Carol will tell you that she never planned on a career in this field but once she saw the impact that education had on Tennesseans; she knew she was right where she needed to be.

Planting roots in Martin, this native west Tennessean originally hails from Bruceton. Carol is a newlywed who enjoys spending her spare time cooking, gardening and surrounding herself with family and friends. However, she mostly takes pleasure in spending quality time with her husband Sean, who is the Head Girl's Basketball Coach at Martin Westview High School.

Comments from Carol:

“ I love working for TSAC because I give hope to so many people who want to further their education, but don't know how they will afford it. I plant the education seed in students which will grow to produce future leaders in our world. I like knowing I have a hand in that. ”

Legislation Update

The second annual session of the 105th General Assembly convened on January 8, 2008. Both the House and Senate education committees met on Wednesday, January 9th. There are clear indications both chambers intend to start early in the session with dialogue regarding usage of the current Tennessee

lottery surplus since the legislature was unable to pass general lottery legislation last year.

Bills held over from the 2007 annual session included various revisions to the TELS program requirements, including a revision of the minimum GPA requirements for receipt and/or continuation of the HOPE scholarship. Some interest has

been expressed on Capitol Hill in shifting the emphasis of the Lottery scholarship program, at least to some degree, from merit to need.

The TSAC staff expects another busy year working with the legislature on bills relative to postsecondary student financial aid and the TELS program in particular.

Gearing Up for College Goal Sunday 2008

We need your help to distribute information about the 2008 College Goal Sunday (CGS) program in Tennessee. Word of mouth is one of the best ways to share the information; however, we have brochures, posters and postcards you can order to help spread the word. You may request these materials by contacting Karen Myers by e-mail at karen.myers@state.tn.us or by telephone at (615) 253-7444.

In addition, the 2008 CGS website is now available at www.CollegeGoalSundayTN.org. Volunteers are needed and we encourage you to visit the website to register as soon as possible. Students and parents are asked to go to the website to reserve their spot at the CGS site located nearest to where they live.



TSAC staff members lend a hand in the sorting and packaging of College Goal Sunday material that will be distributed to Tennessee schools.